

Amendments to the Drawings:

The attached sheets of drawings include changes to Fig. 1 and adds Fig. 2. These sheets, which include Fig. 1-2, replace the original sheet including Fig. 1.

Attachment: Replacement Sheet and New Sheet

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

The Office Action mailed April 18, 2006 has been reviewed and carefully considered. Claims 13-14, 16-17, and 19-24 are pending in this application, with claim 13 being the only independent claim. Reconsideration of the above-identified application, as herein amended and in view of the following remarks, is respectfully requested.

Claim Amendments

Independent claim 13 is amended to include the limitations of dependent claims 15 and 18. In addition, claim 13 is also amended to recite "a distributor cylinder having an axis of rotation", and "said applicator roll is pivotable about the axis of rotation of said distributor cylinder by said levers". Support for these limitations is found at page 3, lines 7-9 of the original application. The dependent claims 19-24 are each amended to depend directly from independent claim 13. Claims 19 and 20 are amended to recite that the locking mechanism acts directly on the motor or the levers. Support for this amendment is found in the original drawing.

Drawing Objection

The drawing was objected to because the only Figure showed modified forms of construction. Figs. 1 and 2 are now presented to show one form in each view. The specification has been amended to be consistent with the changes to the drawings.

Rejection of the Claims under 35 U.S.C. §§102 and 103

Claims 13 and 14 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 4,481,882 (Rudolph).

Claims 15-19, 21, and 24 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103 as unpatentable over Rudolph in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,098,542 (Dufour).

Claim 20 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103 as unpatentable over Rudolph and Dufour and further in view of U.S. Patent No. 3,286,622 (Mestre).

Claims 22 and 23 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103 as unpatentable over Rudolph and Dufour and further in view of U.S. Patent No. 4,222,325 (Edwards).

Independent claim 13 relates to an applicator unit and recites "a motor operatively arranged for pivoting said applicator roll such that applicator roll is pivotable to a thrown-on position against the form cylinder of the rotary press with a controlled throwing-on force by said motor, wherein said applicator roll contacts the form cylinder in an imprint area when said applicator is in the thrown-on position, the imprint area having a length along a length of said applicator roll and an imprint width along a circumferential direction of said applicator roll, said throwing-on force is adjustable to set a desired imprint width", and "a lock mechanism for locking said applicator roll in the thrown-on position".

Rudolph discloses a device for adjusting ink or moisture application rolls having a cylinder units arranged for rotating eccentrics 10 to move feeding roll 7 and application roll 3 into contact (see col. 4, lines 15-30 of Rudolph). Continued movement of the eccentric at this point moves levers 19 for moving the application roll 3 to a printing cylinder 2 (col. 4, lines 30-41). This adjustment of the application roll ends when arms of the lever come to rest against stops (col. 4, lines 41-43).

Rudolph fails to teach or suggest that the throwing-on force is controlled by the motor and "said applicator roll contacts the form cylinder in an imprint area when said applicator is in the thrown-on position, the imprint area having a length along a length of said applicator roll and an imprint width along a circumferential direction of said applicator roll, said throwing-on force is adjustable to set a desired imprint width", as recited in independent claim 13. Rather,

Rudolph discloses that the stops are used to limit how far the application roll is moved toward the printing cylinder 2. Moreover, there is no indication of an adjustment for controlling the imprint width. Furthermore, Rudolph also fails to disclose a lock mechanism.

The combined teachings of Dufour and Rudolph also fails to teach or suggest that the throwing-on force is controlled by the motor and "said applicator roll contacts the form cylinder in an imprint area when said applicator is in the thrown-on position, the imprint area having a length along a length of said applicator roll and an imprint width along a circumferential direction of said applicator roll, said throwing-on force is adjustable to set a desired imprint width", as recited in independent claim 13.

Dufour relates to a device and method for force loading a rubber blanket roller in a printing press. More specifically, Dufour relates to force loading a rubber blanket roller in an inker or dampener of a printing press (see col. 1, lines 7-10 and lines 38-44). Accordingly, Dufour does not disclose throwing on an applicator roller onto a form cylinder of a printing press. In contrast, Dufour relates to a rubber roller within an inking unit or a dampening unit. Furthermore, Dufour discloses two cylinders are connected by hydraulic cylinders $H_{A/B}$ and $H_{B/C}$ connected between the rotating axes of the cylinders. Accordingly, Dufour also fails to disclose that any of the cylinders are pivoted into place. Also Dufour is solely concerned with the pressure or load between the cylinders within an inking or dampening unit. These cylinders are depicted as having similar diameters which is not the case for an applicator roll on a form cylinder. There is no teaching whatsoever in Dufour that there should be any concern for the imprint width. Accordingly, the combined teachings of Dufour and Rudolph fail to teach or suggest that the throwing-on force is controlled by the motor and "said applicator roll contacts the form cylinder in an imprint area when said applicator is in the thrown-on position, the

imprint area having a length along a length of said applicator roll and an imprint width along a circumferential direction of said applicator roll, said throwing-on force is adjustable to set a desired imprint width", as recited in independent claim 13.

To establish a *prima facie* case of obviousness, three basic criteria must be met. First, there must be some suggestion or motivation, either in the references themselves or in the knowledge generally available to one of ordinary skill in the art, to modify the reference or to combine the reference teachings. Second there must be a reasonable expectation of success. Finally, the prior art reference (or references when combined) must teach or suggest all the claim limitations. The teaching or suggestion to make the claimed combination and the reasonable expectation of success must both be found in the prior art, not in applicant's disclosure. *In re Vaeck*, 947 F.2d 488, 20 USPQ2d 1438 (Fed. Cir. 1991).

In the present application, the first criteria is not met because one skilled in the art would not combine the teachings of Dufour for controlling the load pressure between cylinders of an inking unit or dampening unit with the device of Rudolph for pivoting an application roller onto a form cylinder. Even if the teachings were combined, the third criteria is not met because the combined teachings of Rudolph and Dufour fail to disclose that the throwing-on force is controlled by the motor and "said applicator roll contacts the form cylinder in an imprint area when said applicator is in the thrown-on position, the imprint area having a length along a length of said applicator roll and an imprint width along a circumferential direction of said applicator roll, said throwing-on force is adjustable to set a desired imprint width", as recited in independent claim 13.

In view of the above amendments and remarks, independent claim 13 is allowable over the prior art of record.

Dependent claims 14, 16-17, and 19-24, each being dependent on independent claim 13, are allowable for at least the same reasons as is independent claim 13, as well as for the additional reasons contained therein.

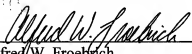
Claim 19 is amended to recite that the locking mechanism acts directly on the motor for holding the motor at a fixed location. Rudolph fails to disclose a locking mechanism and Dufour discloses a shut-off valve connected to a cylinder. Accordingly, there is no teaching or suggestion for directly acting on a motor. Dependent claim 19 is allowable for these additional reasons.

Claims 20 is amended to recite that the locking mechanism acts directly on the lever. As stated above, the shut-off valve of Dufour fails to teach such a direct acting mechanism. Dependent claim 20 is thus allowable for these additional reasons.

It is believed that no fees or charges are required at this time in connection with the present application. However, if any fees or charges are required at this time, they may be charged to our Patent and Trademark Office Deposit Account No. 03-2412.

Respectfully submitted,
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